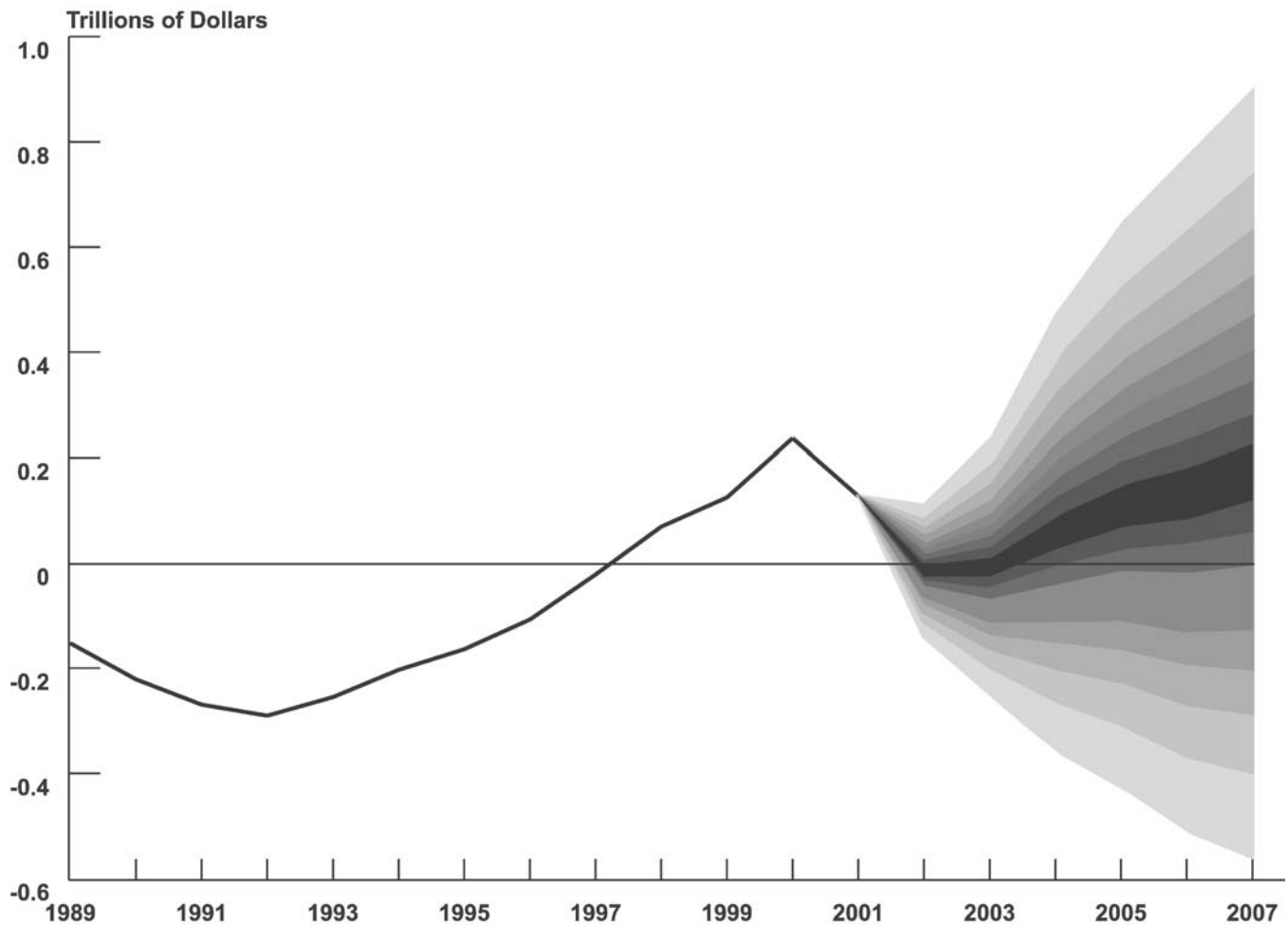


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**Figure 1.**  
**Uncertainty in CBO's Projections of the Total Budget Surplus Under Current Policies**



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office.

NOTES: This figure shows the estimated likelihood of alternative projections of the surplus under current policies. The calculations are based on CBO's past track record. CBO's baseline projections fall in the middle of the darkest area. Under the assumption that policies do not change, the probability is 10 percent that actual surpluses will fall in the darkest area and 90 percent that they will fall within the whole shaded area.

Actual surpluses will of course be affected by legislation enacted during the next 10 years, including decisions about discretionary spending. The effects of future legislation are not included in this figure.

An explanation of how this probability distribution was calculated will appear shortly on CBO's Web site ([www.cbo.gov](http://www.cbo.gov)).

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